

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) A fluidized bed incinerator having a combustion furnace, comprising:

first to fourth combustion sections, and

wherein a fuel is supplied to said first combustion section and a combustion exhaust gas is exhausted after said fourth combustion section,

first to fourth airs are supplied to said first to fourth combustion sections in first to fourth air surplus rates, respectively, and

said second air surplus rate is equal to or more than said first air surplus rate, said third air surplus rate is equal to or more than said second air surplus rate, and said fourth air surplus rate is equal to or more than said third air surplus rate,

wherein said first combustion section combusts the fuel in a first temperature range in a deoxidation atmosphere by said first air, to suppress generation of NO_x and dioxin,

said second combustion section combusts a non-combusted component of the fuel in a second temperature range in the deoxidation atmosphere by said second air, to suppress the generation of NO_x and dioxin and to dissolve NO_x and dioxin generated in said first combustion section,

said third combustion section combusts a non-combusted component of the fuel in a third temperature range by said third air, to suppress the generation of NO_x and dioxin and to dissolve NO_x and dioxin generated in said second combustion section, and

said fourth combustion section carries out complete combustion of a non-combusted component of the fuel in a fourth temperature range in oxidization atmosphere by said fourth

air, to suppress the generation of NO_x and dioxin and to dissolve NO_x and dioxin generated in said third combustion section.

3. (Original) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 2, wherein said first to third temperature ranges are substantially the same.

4. (Original) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 2, wherein said first to third temperature ranges are a range of 800 °C to 900 °C.

5. (Original) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 2, wherein said fourth temperature range is equal to or lower than each of said first to third temperature ranges.

6. (Original) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 2, wherein said fourth temperature range is a range of 750 °C to 850 °C.

7. (Original) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 2, wherein said first temperature range of said first combustion section is controlled by a first temperature control section.

8. (Original) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 2, wherein said fourth temperature range of said fourth combustion section is controlled by a second temperature control section.

9. (Original) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 2, wherein said second and third temperature ranges of said second and third combustion sections are controlled by changing said second and third air surplus rates, respectively.

10. (Previously Presented) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 13, wherein said first air surplus rate is in a range of 0.5 to 0.7, said second air surplus rate is in a range of 0.7 to 0.9, said third air surplus rate is in a range of 0.9 to 1.15, and said fourth air surplus rate is in a range of 1.15 to 1.6.

11. (Currently Amended) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 13,
wherein a residence time of a combustion gas in said first combustion section is in a range of
1.5 to 2.5 seconds,

a residence time of a combustion gas in said second combustion section is in a range
of 0.5 to 1.5 seconds,

a residence time of a combustion gas in said third combustion section is in a range of
0.1 to 1.0 second, and

a residence time of a combustion gas in said fourth combustion section is equal to or
more than 1.5 to 2.5 seconds.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) A fluidized bed incinerator having a combustion furnace
comprising:

first to fourth combustion sections, and

wherein a fuel is supplied to said first combustion section and an combustion exhaust
gas is exhausted after said fourth combustion section,

first to fourth airs are supplied to said first to fourth combustion sections in first to
fourth air surplus rates, respectively, and

said second air surplus rate is equal to or more than said first air surplus rate, said
third air surplus rate is equal to or more than said second air surplus rate, and said fourth air
surplus rate is equal to or more than said third air surplus rate,

wherein said first combustion section is a fluidized bed combustion section, and has a
first air supply port provided in a bottom of said first combustion section,

wherein said second combustion section has a second air supply port provided in a
range of 1500 to 2100 mm from the bottom;

said third combustion section has a third air supply port provided in a range of 3100 to 3700 mm from said bottom; and

said fourth combustion section has a fourth air supply port provided in a range of 4100 to 4700 mm from said bottom.

14. (Original) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 13, further comprising a fuel supply port provided between said second air supply port and said third air supply port.

15. (Previously Presented) A combustion method in a fluidized bed incinerator comprising the steps of:

- (a) supplying fuel to a first combustion section as a fluidized bed;
- (b) combusting the fuel in a first temperature range by first air supplied to said first combustion section, while suppressing generation of NO_x and dioxin;
- (c) combusting a non-combusted component of the fuel in a second temperature range by second air supplied to a second combustion section, while suppressing the generation of NO_x and dioxin and dissolving NO_x and dioxin generated in said first combustion section;
- (d) combusting a non-combusted component of the fuel in a third temperature range by third air supplied to a third combustion section, while suppressing the generation of NO_x and dioxin and dissolving NO_x and dioxin generated in said second combustion section; and
- (e) carrying out complete combustion of a non-combusted component of the fuel in a fourth temperature range by fourth air supplied to a fourth combustion section, while suppressing the generation of NO_x and dioxin and dissolving NO_x and dioxin generated in said third combustion section.

16. (Original) The combustion method according to claim 15, wherein said (b) and (c) steps are carried out in a deoxidation atmosphere.

17. (Original) The combustion method according to claim 15, wherein said (e) step is carried out in an oxidation atmosphere.

18. (Original) The combustion method according to claim 15, wherein said first to fourth airs are supplied to said first to fourth combustion sections in first to fourth air surplus rates, respectively, and

said second air surplus rate is equal to or more than said first air surplus rate, said third air surplus rate is equal to or more than said second air surplus rate, and said fourth air surplus rate is equal to or more than said third air surplus rate.

19. (Original) The combustion method according to claim 15, said first to third temperature ranges are a range of 800 °C to 900 °C.

20. (Original) The combustion method according to claim 15, wherein said fourth temperature range is equal to or lower than each of said first to third temperature ranges, and a range of 750 °C to 850 °C.

21. (Currently Amended) The combustion method according to claim 15, wherein a residence time of a combustion gas in said first combustion section is in a range of 1.5 to 2.5 seconds,

a residence time of a combustion gas in said second combustion section is in a range of 0.5 to 1.5 seconds,

a residence time of a combustion gas in said third combustion section is in a range of 0.1 to 1.0 second, and

a residence time of a combustion gas in said fourth combustion section is equal to or more than 1.5 to 2.5 seconds.

22. (Original) A fluidized bed incinerator having a combustion furnace comprising:
first to fourth combustion sections, and
wherein a fuel is supplied to said first combustion section and an combustion exhaust gas is exhausted after said fourth combustion section,
first to fourth airs are supplied to said first to fourth combustion sections in first to fourth air surplus rates, respectively, and
a residence time of gas corresponding to the fuel in said first combustion section is in a range of 1.5 to 2.5 seconds;
a residence time of the gas in said second combustion section is in a range of 0.5 to 1.5 seconds;
a residence time of the gas in said third combustion section is in a range of 0.1 to 1.0 seconds; and
a residence time of the gas in said fourth combustion section is equal to or more than 1.5 to 2.5 seconds.

23. (Previously Presented) A fluidized bed incinerator having a combustion furnace comprising:
first to fourth combustion sections, and
wherein a fuel is supplied to said first combustion section as a fluidized bed section and an combustion exhaust gas is exhausted after said fourth combustion section,
first to fourth air are supplied from first to fourth air supply ports to said first to fourth combustion section, respectively, and
said first air supply port is provided in a bottom of said combustion furnace,
said second air supply port is provided in a range of 1500 to 2100 mm from the bottom;

said third air supply port is provided in a range of 3100 to 3700 mm from said bottom;
and

said fourth air supply port is provided in a range of 4100 to 4700 mm from said
bottom.

24. (Original) The fluidized bed incinerator according to claim 23, wherein said
combustion furnace further comprises a fuel input port provided in a range of 2100 to 2700
mm from the bottom.

25. (Previously Presented) A fluidized bed incinerator having a combustion furnace
comprising:

a first combustion section as a fluidized bed section to which fuel is supplied and first
air is supplied from a first air supply port provided in a bottom of said combustion furnace;

a second combustion section to which second air is supplied from a second air supply
port provided in a range of 1500 to 2100 mm from the bottom;

a third combustion section to which third air is supplied from a third air supply port;

a fourth combustion section to which fourth air is supplied from a fourth air supply
port, and an combustion exhaust gas is exhausted after said fourth combustion section; and

a fuel input port provided in a range of 2100 to 2700 mm from the bottom.